



IFW
RCE 280
APR 28 2004

PTO/SB/30 (09-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Request
for
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/903,307
Filing Date	July 11, 2001
First Named Inventor	Sogard et al.
Art Unit	2853
Examiner Name	Lam S. Nguyen
Attorney Docket Number	PA0272-US / 11269.30

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on _____
ii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

i. Amendment/Reply iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
ii. Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s) iv. Other Fee Transmittal, Return Receipt Postcard

2. Miscellaneous

Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a

a. period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
b. Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to

a. Deposit Account No. 50-1141

i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 04/29/2004 WASFAM1 00000095 09903307
ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801 770.00 0P
iii. Other _____

b. Check in the amount of \$ 1212.00 enclosed

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Steven G. Roeder	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37.227
Signature		Date	04/26/2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Steven G. Roeder
Signature	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Sogard et al.)
Serial No: 09/903,307) Art Unit
Filed: July 11, 2001) 2853
For: STAGE ASSEMBLY HAVING A)
FOLLOWER ASSEMBLY)
Examiner: Lam S. Nguyen)
Attorney Docket: PA0272-US / 11269.30)

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION
WITH RCE

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This response is to the Final Office Action dated January 26, 2004. The Applicants respectfully request that this Response be considered after final rejection because the Applicants are filing a Request for Continued Examination concurrently herewith. The Application is believed by the Applicants to be in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class, postage prepaid mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313, on this the 26th day of April, 2004.

STEVEN G. ROEDER, Attorney for Applicants—Registration No. 37,227

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**FEE TRANSMITTAL
for FY 2004**

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT** (\$ 1212.00)**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/903,307
Filing Date	July 11, 2001
First Named Inventor	Sogard et al.
Examiner Name	Lam S. Nguyen
Art Unit	2853
Attorney Docket No.	PA0272-US / 11269.30

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)
 Check Credit card Money Order Other None
 Deposit Account:Deposit Account Number
50-1141

Steven G. Roeder

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee
 to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION**1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001 770	2001 385			Utility filing fee	
1002 340	2002 170			Design filing fee	
1003 530	2003 265			Plant filing fee	
1004 770	2004 385			Reissue filing fee	
1005 160	2005 80			Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)		(\$)			

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Independent Claims	Multiple Dependent	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
67	5		-20** = 15	x 18	= 270
			- 3** = 2	x 86	= 172

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20
1201 86	2201 43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203 290	2203 145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204 86	2204 43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
SUBTOTAL (2)		(\$ 442.00)

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code (\$)	Fee (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051 130	2051 65			Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052 50	2052 25			Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053 130	1053 130			Non-English specification	
1812 2,520	1812 2,520			For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804 920*	1804 920*			Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*			Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251 110	2251 55			Extension for reply within first month	
1252 420	2252 210			Extension for reply within second month	
1253 950	2253 475			Extension for reply within third month	
1254 1,480	2254 740			Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255 2,010	2255 1,005			Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401 330	2401 165			Notice of Appeal	
1402 330	2402 165			Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403 290	2403 145			Request for oral hearing	
1451 1,510	1451 1,510			Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452 110	2452 55			Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453 1,330	2453 665			Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501 1,330	2501 665			Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502 480	2502 240			Design issue fee	
1503 640	2503 320			Plant issue fee	
1460 130	1460 130			Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807 50	1807 50			Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806 180	1806 180			Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021 40	8021 40			Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809 770	2809 385			Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810 770	2810 385			For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801 770	2801 385			Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	770.00
1802 900	1802 900			Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 770.00)

(Complete if applicable)

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	Steven G. Roeder	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,227	Telephone	858-456-1951
Signature				Date	04-26-2004

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